



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

April 12, 1999

H.R. 1184 **Earthquake Hazards Reduction Authorization Act of 1999**

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Science on March 29, 1999

SUMMARY

H.R. 1184 would authorize the appropriation of \$537 million over the 2000-2004 period (including \$38 million that is already authorized under current law) for programs aimed at the potential reduction of earthquake hazards. Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that the bill would result in additional discretionary spending of \$477 million over the 2000-2004 period. The bill would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. H.R. 1184 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

H.R. 1184 would authorize appropriations totaling \$202 million over the 2000-2001 period for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), the National Science Foundation (NSF), and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to carry out provisions of the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977 (Public Law 95-124). In addition, the bill would authorize a total of \$253 million over the 2000-2004 period for a new system of seismic research and monitoring to be administered by USGS. H.R. 1184 also would authorize appropriations totaling \$82 million over the 2000-2004 period for NSF to establish a network for engineering simulations of earthquakes. The amounts authorized for NSF include \$38 million that was previously authorized in Public Law 105-207 for fiscal year 2000. (H.R. 1184 would amend that existing authorization to earmark \$38 million for reducing earthquake hazards.)

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

For the purposes of this estimate, CBO assumes that all amounts authorized in H.R. 1184 will be appropriated by the start of each fiscal year and that outlays will follow the historical spending patterns for these and similar programs. The estimated cost of the bill is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget functions 250 (general

science, space, and technology), 300 (natural resources and environment), 370 (commerce and housing credit), and 450 (community and regional development).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Spending Under Current Law						
Budget Authority/Authorization Level ^a	103	38	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	69	32	25	8	2	1
Proposed Changes						
FEMA: Authorization Level	0	20	20	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	0	11	17	8	3	1
USES: Authorization Level	0	86	93	51	58	62
Estimated Outlays	0	76	98	53	57	62
NSF: Authorization Level	0	0	59	24	5	17
Estimated Outlays	0	0	13	34	25	14
NIST: Authorization Level	0	2	2	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	0	2	2	1	b	0
Total: Authorization Level	0	108	174	75	63	79
Estimated Outlays	0	89	130	96	85	77
Spending Under H.R. 1184						
Authorization Level	103	146	174	75	63	79
Estimated Outlays	69	121	155	104	87	78

a. The 1999 level is the amount appropriated for that year. The amount for 2000 is part of an NSF authorization under Public Law 105-207. H.R. 1184 would amend that law to earmark \$30 million specifically for the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program and \$8 million for Earthquakes Engineering Simulation.

b. Less than \$500,000.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS: None.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 1184 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. The bill would authorize funds to USES, FEMA, NIST, and NSF, some of which would fund earthquake research grants to public universities. It also would set aside \$18.5 million of funds authorized for USES over the next two fiscal years for grants that could go to state and local governments. Finally, state and local governments would benefit from technical assistance and hazard mitigation planning grants provided by FEMA.

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